



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 26, 2007



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

For Information Contact Public Affairs
WYN HORNBUCKLE
Telephone: (602) 514-7625
Cell: (602) 525-2681

ILLEGAL ALIEN SENTENCED TO 18 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM AND ILLEGAL RE-ENTRY AFTER DEPORTATION

TUCSON – Eladio Mario Trejo-Ramirez, 37, of Chihuahua, Mexico, was sentenced here today to 18 months in federal prison, to be followed by 3 years of supervised release, by U.S. District Judge David C. Bury. Trejo-Ramirez pleaded guilty on December 7, 2006, admitting illegal possession of a firearm by an illegal alien as well as illegal re-entry after deportation.

In September, 2006, federal agents determined that Eladio Trejo-Ramirez was illegally present in the United States in the area of Sierra Vista, Arizona. His immigration record included a prior deportation from the United States, and that he had no lawful authority to return and be present within the United States again. Agents sought and obtained an arrest warrant for Trejo-Ramirez.

On September 25, 2006, agents located Trejo-Ramirez and arrested him pursuant to the active warrant. Trejo-Ramirez told agents that his gun was at his residence. Agents then received consent to search that residence, and located a sawed-off shotgun under a bed pillow. A second firearm, a loaded .22 caliber pistol, was located on the passenger seat of Trejo-Ramirez's vehicle.

Trejo-Ramirez's prosecution is part of the District of Arizona's Project Safe Neighborhoods, an illegal firearms enforcement program. The effectiveness of Project Safe Neighborhoods in Arizona is based on the ability of federal, state, and local agencies to cooperate in a unified offensive that is led by the U.S. Attorney. Through ongoing partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, like the one in this case, the U.S. Attorney is implementing a series of strategies that are contoured to fit the specific gun crime problems throughout Arizona.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the United States Border Patrol, the Cochise County Border Alliance Group Task Force, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution was handled by Jennifer J. Maldonado, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-01769-TUC-DCB
RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-089(Trejo-Ramirez)

###